

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

October 19, 2004

On October 15, 2004, Downey Regional Medical Center canceled its Medi-Cal contract with the California Department of Health Services, citing nearly \$7 million in losses from providing care to Medi-Cal patients in 2003.

California ranks 51st in the nation in Medi-Cal reimbursement per enrollee. Hospitals and physicians have reported that the inadequate Medi-Cal payments are not covering the costs of providing care. Consequently, in order to avoid detrimental financial losses and potential closure, hospitals and physicians throughout the County are opting out of Medi-Cal. Such action further jeopardized the already strained health care delivery safety net.

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MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Health Services to:

1. Work in conjunction with the Hospital Association of Southern California and the Los Angeles County Medical Association to produce a detailed analysis, within 90 days, on the reasons hospitals and physicians are opting out of Medi-Cal and the impact such actions are having on Medi-Cal patient's access to care, as well as the public and private sector health care delivery system; and
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Office and the Department of Health Services, in conjunction with the Hospital Association of Southern California and the Los Angeles County Medical Association, to produce a joint advocacy strategy, within 90 days, which would include a five signature letter from this Board to the Governor, with copies to the County's State legislation delegation, alerting them to the dire need for adequate Medi-Cal reimbursement and the adverse effect inadequate rates are having on the safety net in Los Angeles County.

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RE:e